



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PORT ARTHUR MAN SENTENCED FOR FEDERAL FIREARMS VIOLATIONS

(Beaumont, TX) A 38-year-old Port Arthur man has been sentenced to 180 months in federal prison for being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm.

CHATMAN OLIVER GOBERT was sentenced today by United States District Judge Marcia Crone.

According to information presented in court, on November 12, 2004, the Port Arthur Police Department stopped Gobert for a traffic violation in Port Arthur. Gobert told the officers he had a weapon and handed over a pistol. During a search of the vehicle, police also recovered crack cocaine and ammunition.

An investigation revealed that Gobert has prior felony convictions in Jefferson County for robbery, drug trafficking offenses and sexual assault dating from 1985 through 2001. Gobert was indicted for Felon in Possession of a Firearm and pleaded guilty to the charges on April 6, 2005.

This case was prosecuted under the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) initiative. PSN is a comprehensive, strategic approach to gun law enforcement that targets gun crime and violent offenders in an effort to make our communities safer.

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Gobert Sentencing

Over the past four years, law enforcement across America increased federal gun crime prosecutions by 76%. Here in the Eastern District of Texas, gun crime prosecutions are up an impressive 93%.

Matthew D. Orwig, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas was pleased with the sentence, "Port Arthur has recently experienced a tremendous increase in gun crimes. Removing violent offenders is essential to combating this epidemic and making the streets of Port Arthur a safe place to raise a family."

This case was investigated by the Port Arthur Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Randall L. Fluke.

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